

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:191
ANSWERED ON:01.03.2002
PRICES OF ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES
BIR SING MAHATO; RATNA SINGH

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) the difference between the existing wholesale and retail prices of essential commodities per kilogram in the Metropolitan Cities;
- (b) whether any guidelines have been issued in regard to the maximum permissible difference between the wholesale and retail prices of the essential commodities;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the system of monitoring the prices of the essential commodities particularly the retail prices by the Government so as to protect the consumers?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRIV. SREENIVASA PRASAD)

- (a) : A statement showing the wholesale and retail prices of selected essential commodities as on February 20, 2002 at Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai is given in the Annexure.
- (b) : No.
- (c) : Question does not arise.
- (d) : The retail and wholesale prices of 12 essential commodities of mass consumption are monitored by the Central and State Governments at the highest level through the high powered Committees regularly. The daily retail prices and weekly wholesale prices of 12 selected essential commodities of mass consumption are being monitored by the Price Monitoring Cell in the Department. Daily retail prices are monitored in respect of 18 State Capitals and weekly wholesale prices for 37 centres spread all over the country through the State/UT Civil Supplies Departments. Analysis of the data is made and definite measures are taken to safeguard the interests of the consumers from time to time.

ANNEXURE

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION No.191 ANSWER ON 1.3.2002

Wholesale and Retail Prices of Selected Essential Commodities in the four Metropolitan cities as on 20.2.2002

Item	Delhi		Mumbai		Chennai		Kolkata	
	Wholesale	Retail	Wholesale	Retail	Wholesale	Retail	Wholesale	Retail
Rice	9.25	12.00	10.75	11.50	9.50	10.50	9.00	10.00
Wheat	6.35	7.50	9.25	10.25	9.50	11.00	NR	6.75
Gram	23.50	26.00	24.00	28.50	22.00	25.00	21.50	26.00

Tur	21.50	26.00	23.00	25.00	22.00	25.00	21.50	25.00
Sugar	14.50	15.00	15.25	16.25	14.30	14.50	14.90	16.50
Groundnut oil +	67.73	74.00	41.00	42.00	40.00	42.00	46.67	53.00
Mustard oil	38.40	40.00	NR	60.00	NR	NR	33.25	38.00
Vanaspati	37.00	38.00	37.33	40.00	34.35	42.00	30.00	33.00
Onion	3.82	7.00	2.50	4.50	4.00	5.00	3.88	6.00
Potato	3.40	6.00	6.60	9.00	4.00	5.00	2.60	3.00
Tea								
(loose)	100.00	115.00	NR	130.00	116.00	120.00	NR	80.00
Salt								
(packed)	4.60	6.00	6.40	7.00	5.20	6.00	NR	6.00

Note : Wholesale prices are originally reported per quintal and have been converted to Rs. Per kg.

+ : Retail prices relate to premium brand of 1 kg. in Delhi and Kolkota and Wholesale prices are in prepect of 15 kg. in common brand. In Mumbai and Chennai retail and wholesale prices pertain to loose variety.

Source : State Civil Supplies Departments
NR : Not Reported